A total of 9787 persons were arrested in the country during these years under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act. Sri Lanka is not a source country of above drugs.

(b) Various new and stringent legislative measures have been introduced in the recent years which resulted in discouraging drug trafficking in and through India. Some of these measures included vigorous and prolonged incarceration from 10 to 30 years, death penalty for repeat offences of some categories and trying such offences in Special Courts for speedy disposal. Such measures also include hitting directly at the traffickers' financial assets and properties by bringing in provisions in law ty derived from illicit drug trade. Multi-pronged enforcement drive by various enforcement agencies have also been undertaken.

RBI Immunity against foreign remittances

407. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has adopted an immunity scheme whereby undisclosed overseas funds can be remitted with no questions asked;

(b) the amount of money that is estimated will come to the country in this manner; and

(c) whether the likely effect of the scheme on the economy has been studied fully before adopting it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Remittances in Foreign Exchange (Immunities) 1991 has been launched by Reserve Bank of India. While no firm target was fixed for deposits to be made under the Scheme, the response so far is generally encouraging. The Scheme was introduced to tide over the current difficulties relating to the balance of payments problems and to augment inflow of foreign exchange.

Percentage of loan recovery

408. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of loan advances recovered by each nationalised bank during the years 1989, 1990 and so far in 1991;

(b) whether the percentage of recovery is low; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The outstanding advances and overdues in respect of Public Sector Banks as on March, 1989 and March, 1990 (Latest available) as reported by Reserve Bank of India, is given below:—

(Rs, crores)

	Outstanding	Overdues
31-3-89 . .	80797	13096
31-3-90 . .	85497	13675

Bankwise Details are given in the statement (*See* below).

Various steps have been taken by RBI to reduce the amount of overdues and also to improve the recovery performance of the commercial banks in respect of their advances to various sectors. Some of the important steps are as follows.

(1) Banks have been impressed upon to institute a viable recovery